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"DEFENCE NOT DEFIANCE."

PROTESTANT

Believe Nothing

OF

C A N A D A .

CONSTITUTION, &c.

Organized December 22, 1875.

Montreal :

"WITNESS" PRINTING HOUSE, 218 AND 220 ST. JAMES ST.
1876.

President :

REV. H. WILKES, D. D.

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BOND, REV. DR. DOUGLAS, WM. CLENDINNENG, T. JAS.
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P. O. Drawer 357.

Assistant Secretary—ALEX. H. ROBERTSON.

Treasurer—GEO. W. STEPHENS.

Committee :

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REV. G. H. WELLS,	J. S. MCLACHLAN,
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REV. J. ROY,	J. R. DOUGALL,
REV. CHAS. CHAPMAN,	J. J. McLAREN,
JOHN TORRANCE,	JAS. A. MATHEWSON.

CONSTITUTION.

At an influential meeting of Protestants, held in Montreal, on the 22nd of December, 1875, the following resolution was unanimously carried :—

“That the increasingly aggressive spirit of the Romish hierarchy in this Province, as shown, not only in influencing the Government and Legislature, but in other ways affecting civil and religious rights and liberties in this Dominion, as well as in the persecution of those who have left the Church of Rome, renders it necessary for Protestants and others to unite to resist these encroachments, and to extend aid and sympathy to those suffering for conscience’ sake.

“*Resolved*, therefore, that this meeting, in dependence upon the Divine blessing, now forms itself into an Association for the purpose of securing such objects by the employment of all legal and constitutional means.”

OBJECTS.

The constitutional resistance of all efforts on the part of the Roman Catholic hierarchy to violate the principles of civil and religious rights and liberties ; and the guidance and protection of Protestants and others who may be exposed to the persecution of the Romish priesthood for conscience' sake.

METHODS.

1. The appointment of a Vigilance Committee to take cognizance of all legislative proceedings, both in the Dominion and Provincial Parliaments, so far as those proceedings can, either directly or indirectly, affect the objects of this Association.

2. The appointment of local and district Committees to watch over and to report upon the action and conduct of municipal and other public bodies, in matters appertaining to the civil and religious rights of Protestants and others.

3. The publication in the leading newspapers of every authenticated proof of the violation of the principles of civil and religious liberty by the Roman Catholic Church in Canada.

4. To obtain sound legal advice (when deemed necessary by the Committee) for those whose

rights or property are in danger of infringement by any Roman Catholic institution.

5. Such other methods as may, from time to time be considered necessary and practicable for the full accomplishment of the aims of this organization.

GOVERNMENT.

1. By a general Committee of Management, consisting of a President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Assistant-Secretary, Treasurer, and twenty-five of a Committee, with power to add to their number; all of whom shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Alliance.

2. The General Committee to meet once a month.

3. The Head Quarters of the Alliance to be in Montreal.

4. The Executive Committee shall appoint such secretaries, law and parliamentary agents, vigilance and other committees, and such other officers and agencies as they may deem requisite.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Any person subscribing one dollar or more per annum, to be enrolled as a member of the Alliance, subject to the approval of the Executive.

PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP.

1. The right to vote on questions affecting the conduct of the Alliance.
 2. The early receipt of such information as the Executive Committee may deem prudent to communicate.
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ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting shall be held in December.

ALTERATIONS OR AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any general meeting of the members by a two-thirds vote of those present. One month's notice to be given the Secretary and Members.

HINTS FOR THE FORMATION OF BRANCH SOCIETIES.

1. Consult with clergymen and leading laymen of all denominations and convene a private meeting.

2. At this meeting form a "Provisional Committee" to make arrangements for a public meeting. If possible, send circulars to all Protestant clergymen and laymen in the neighborhood whose co-operation is desirable.

3. Open all meetings with prayer.

4. Form a Branch, and prefix the name of the town, village, district or county, to the words, "Branch of the Protestant Defence Alliance of Canada."

5. Adopt the enclosed Constitution, with such additions as may be necessary for local convenience.

6. Communicate at once with the Secretary at Headquarters, giving name of society, list of officers, secretary's P. O. address, &c.

7. It is recommended that the money collected by the Branch Association should, after defraying working expenses, be remitted to Headquarters.

8. Cases of violation in Quebec of the civil rights and liberties of Protestants, or of others who may desire the aid and protection of the Alliance, should be reported in detail, with the necessary vouchers, to the Secretary at Headquarters, on receipt of which information the Central Executive Committee will take such action in behalf of the injured parties as the circumstances may in each case require.

Subscriptions and donations are earnestly solicited, to be remitted to the Secretary, W. Geo. Beers, P.O. Drawer 357. Amounts received will be acknowledged by the Treasurer's receipt.

You are earnestly requested to read this Report, and to assist in making known amongst friends the operations of the Alliance.

A copy of the report will be sent to any person on application to the Secretary.

W. GEO. BEERS,
Secretary.

P. O. Drawer 357,
Montreal



